

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02910 101017Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 375
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CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, KS, US
SUBJ: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, APRIL 8 - 10

REF: SEOUL 2799 (DTG 070650Z APR 78)

1. TROOP WITHDRAWAL. HEAVY COVERAGE TO CONG STRATTON'S
BILL UNDER HEADLINES SUCH AS "STRATTON PROPOSAL: STATION
BASIC TROOPS TILL S-N PEACE ACCORD". OTHER POINTS EMPHASIZED
1) WITHDRAWAL OF 6,000 TROOPS THIS YEAR CONDITIONAL UPON
CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR \$80-90 MILLION IN WEAPONS
TRANSFER; 2) NO FURTHER WITHDRAWAL UNTIL "THOROUGH ANALYSIS
OF SITUATION BY COMMANDERS ON THE SPOT". CHOSUN ILBO WASH
CORRESPONDENT REPORTS STRATTON CLARIFIED HIS POSITION THROUGH
TELEPHONE INTERVIEW BY NOTING 1) PROPOSAL GETS PRES CARTER
OUT OF DIFFICULT SITUATION IN WHICH \$800 MILLION TRANSFER
PACKAGE WILL NOT PASS; 2) "STRATTON SAID...MOST IMPORTANT
IN HIS PROPOSAL WAS THAT UNTIL THERE WAS AN ACTUAL
SOLUTION TO THE KOREAN PROBLEM, US TROOPS SHOULD BE
KEPT IN KOREA"; 3) WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACTION ON
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TRANSFER PACKAGE VERY DANGEROUS FOR REMAINING USFK.
PRESS CARRIES WIRE REPORT OF FORMER PRES FORD SUPPORTING
US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ROK. 4/10 EDITORIALS VOICED
AGREEMENT WITH STRATTON'S VIEWS AND HOPE FOR
OVERALL RE-EXAMINATION OF WITHDRAWAL PLAN" (SEOUL
SINMUN). PRESS ALSO CARRIES WASH POST 4/7 SPECULATION
THAT CARTER WILL MAKE "AN IMPORTANT DECISION" CONCERNING

TROOP WITHDRAWAL WITHIN A FEW WEEKS.

2. THREE PARTY TALKS. AP/BUCHAREST WIRE REPORT
SAYS CEAUSESCU RECEIVED KIM IL-SONG PEACE
PROPOSAL 3/27 FROM HUH CHONG-SUK, (VICE CHAIRMAN,
STANDING COMMITTEE DPRK PEOPLES ASSEMBLY) WHEN SHE
VISITED ROMANIA. 4/10 PRESS HAS REUTER'S/BUCHAREST
STORY CITING "WELL-INFORMED SOURCES SAYING CEAUSESCU
TO VISIT P'YONGYANG MID-MAY." FOUR WEEKEND EDITORIALS
ATTACK 3-PARTY TALKS AND S/N CONFEDERATION PROPOSAL
AS "NORTH KOREAN PEACE CAMOUFLAGE". TONE OF EDITORIALS
IS HARSH ("FALSE PROPAGANDA, FRAUD, FABRICATION") AND
URGE US NOT TO BE DECEIVED BY NORTH KOREAN MACHINATIONS.

3. KOREAGATE. MINOR COVERAGE TO WIRE REPORTS ON
KIM HAN-CHO CONVICTION, UPCOMING KISSINGER TESTIMONY,
PTS DEPARTURE.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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